Plans Progressing For Bicentennial Of Acadian Culture

Lafayette — Plans are progressing on the program of events for the 200th anniversary of Acadian culture in southern Louisiana, according to Mrs. C. F. Hamilton, chairman of the executive committee.

The bicentennial program group is headed by Ray Devill, Abbeville, president; Dr. T. L. Aronau, vice president; Allen Ruhmann, secretary-treasurer.

The visit of Bona Aronau, secretary of state at the province of Quebec, April 16-20, will be one of the opening events of the bicentennial observance.

Aronau, a lawyer and historian of Acadian culture, will address the Louisiana Historical Association Saturday, April 16th, in Baton Rouge, and visit in Abbeville before arriving with Mr. Theriot.

The Canadian historian who will be accompanied by Marion LaPorte, Quebec's curator of cultural affairs, will introduce his new book on Acadian genealogy during a presentation at 3 p.m. Sunday, April 18th at the UNL French House.

In preparation of the book, Aronau has made intensive research in France, Nova Scotia, and other parts of Canada where the Acadians lived, and in the older parishes in South Louisiana, including New Orleans, Galena, St. Martinville, Lafayette, and Grand Coteau.

The dedication of a statue of Our Lady of the Assumption Sunday, Aug. 12, will be another highlight of the bicentennial observance. All invita-
tions have been extended to Cardinal Maurice Roy of Quebec to attend the dedication.

Bishop Bernard Scherber of Lafayette will be celebrant of the Mass and the sermon will be given by Auxiliary Bishop Warren E. Hewlett.

A banquet honoring Cardinal Roy will be held Sunday, Aug. 13, in the Lafayette Municipal Auditorium.

A symposium on Acadian culture will be an annual event of the observance. Outstanding speakers will be invited to discuss Acadian history, agriculture, religion, fine arts, literature, education, culinary arts.

Establishment of a chair of Acadian History at the University of Southwestern Louisiana is another project for the bicentennial observance.

The program will terminate in January, 1965, with Theriot's annual brochure book, that in Baton Rouge, an event featuring a variety of Acadian culinary delights.

It is hoped that the prime minister of Quebec, Maurice Lafleur, will attend this presenta-
tion, which will also open the third century of Acadian culture. Mrs. Hamilton pointed out.